0163-0707-2X

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116 - EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 1722

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Kenji MIWA et al

: GROUP: 1722

SERIAL NO: 09/158,099

FILED: September 22, 1998

: EXAMINER: LIN, K.

FOR: METHOD OF REFINEMENT OF

MICROSTRUCTURE OF...

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Official Action mailed December 19, 2000, please amend the above-identified patent application, as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification, as follows:

Page 11, line 11, delete the heading "Brief Description of the Drawings" in its entirety.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 11-14, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new Claims 15-18, corresponding to subject matter from Claims 11-14, as

follows:

15. (New) A method for refining a microstructure of a metallic material, comprising:

RECEIVED

APR 19 2001

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 170

Bub (2)